under consideration at present to shift its Offices from Burla (Orissa) to any other place.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Winding up of the Hindi News Agencies

*259. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARADWAJ :
SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken final decision to wind up the two Hindi news agencies on the recommendations of the committee headed by Shri R.N. Goenka; and

(b) if so, what alternative arrangements have been made to feed the Hindi, Urdu and other language papers with news ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) : (a) and (b) The Government did not take any decision to wind up the two Hindi news agencies. In fact, it is in no position to do so as in pursuance of its deep commitment to the freedom of the press, it would not like to interfere with the internal functioning of the newspapers and news agencies. However in view of the fact that these two agencies had become almost defunct and had reached a point of no return, the Government sought the help and co-operation of the leading editors and owners of language newspapers for ensuring satisfactory service to the language newspapers. As a result of these deliberations, a committee under the Chairmanship of Shri R. N. Goenka came to be appointed by them which after examining the matter in detail, came to the conclusion that it should be possible for the existing English news agencies, namely United News of India and Press Trust of India, to provide requisite service in the Indian languages by strengthening their existing infrastructure suitably. The Government agrees with this view.

Inter-state irrigation projects of Maharashtra

*260. SHRI VITHALARAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV :
DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of inter-state irrigation projects of Maharashtra which are yet to be cleared by the Central Government; and

(b) when the work on the Lendi project in which Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh States are involved is likely to be started ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) 5 Major projects namely, Lendi, Lower Penganga, Tillari, Dudhganga and Upper Tapp.

(b) This would depend on clearance of the project and provision of funds in the State Plan. The concerned State Governments have not informed the Centre when the project would be started.

Use of Brand name by Horlicks

@1424. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that while granting expansion to Horlicks to set up the Rajamundry (Andhra Pradesh) plant, a condition was placed that after a year or so of the Rajamundry

@Previously Unstarred Question 868 transferred from the 5th May 1986.